Oswald's motive linked to U.S. plots against Castro

CINTI POST

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WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate intelligence committee feels further investigation of John F. Kennedy's assassination may be needed, and newly published CIA papers suggest U.S. plots to kill Fidel Castro may have provided Lee Harvey Oswald's motive.

The committee, whose mandate expires May 31, met yesterday, and chairman Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, afterwards told reporters that eight of the 11 members present voted unanimously to:

- Have a subcommittee draft a report on the findings of its investigations of intelligence agencies before and after the Kennedy killing.
- Turn over all material to a proposed permament oversight committee, whose powers are now being debated before the full Senate, with a recommendation that panel carry forward the investigation.

SEN. RICHARD SCHWEIKER, R-Pa., who worked on the subcommittee with Sen. Gary W. Hart, D-Colo, said he feels stronger than ever that the "Cuban connection holds the key to the riddle" of the assassination.

"I think we now know where we could go to find out," he said. "It is no longer like looking for a needle in a haystack."

Hart said it was not a question of the Warren Commission's finding that Oswald was acting alone, but the question of "why he did it" and what the CIA, FBI and other intelligence agencies knew about it.

Both Schweiker and Hart declined to elaborate on the "new leads" which Church said they have uncovered. Their report is expected before the end of the month.

A 1975 CIA DOCUMENT, coincidentally released yesterday under the Freedom of Information Act to a private investigative group, said reports linking the Kennedy tragedy with CIA murder plots against Castro could only be speculative.

The memorandum titled "What Could Castro Have Known" in 1963 about agency plots against him concluded:

"Assuming that he learned something — which is not all that clear — he still would have had to know enough detail to have divined that it was a U.S. government action as a basis for launching a counteraction in the form of Lee Harvey Oswald, as has been postulated by some.

Both Schweiker and Hart said the CIA and FBI withheld from the Warren Commission information they had on Oswald's activities before the assassination.